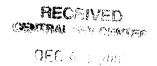
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MESSAGE

RE:

U.S. Patent Application of David M. Pepper and Dennis C. Jones

Entitled:

ROBUST INFRARED COUNTERMEASURE SYSTEM AND METHOD

Application No.

09/837,733

Filing Date:

April 18, 2001

DCM Case No:

RTN-154PUS

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

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> > Client Matter No.; RTN-154PUS

PTO/SB/24 (08-03) modified Approved for use through 08/30/2003. OMB 0851-0031 U.S. Palent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Application Number 09/837.733 TRANSMITTAL Filing Date April 18, 2001 FORM First Named Inventor David M. Pepper Art Unit 2881 (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) Examiner Name Bernard E. Souw Attorney Docket Number RTN-154PUS Total Number of Pages in This Submission **ENCLOSURES** (Check all that apply) After Allowance Communication Fee Transmittal Form Assignment Papers to Technology Center (TC) (for an Application) Fee Attached Appeal Communication to Board Drawing(s) of Appeals and Interferences Amendment/Reply Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Roply Brief) Licensing-related Papers After Final Petition Proprietary Information Affidavits/declaration(s) Petition to Convert to a Status Letter Provisional Application Extension of Time Request Other Enclosure(s) (please Power of Attorney, Revocation Identify below): Change of Correspondence Address Express Abandonment Request Return Postcard; Letter Under MPEP 705,05(g) and 710.06 Information Disclosure Statement Terminal Disclaimer Request for Refund Cartified Copy of Priority Document(s) CD, Number of CD(s)_ Response to Missing Parts Incomplete Application Remarks Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 In the event a petition for extension of time is required by this paper and not otherwise provided, such petition is hereby made and authorization is provided herewith to charge deposit account No. 50-0845 for the cost of such extension, SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Reg. No. 37,303 Christopher S. Daly Daly, Crowley & Mofford, LLP Individual Signature Date CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/FACSIMILE I hereby certify that this correspondence is being submitted via facsimile to 703-872-9313, Examiner Bernard E. Souw, T.C./A.U. 2881, Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22121-1450 on the date set forth below. Typed or printed Chastopher S. Daly MANAM Signature 12 Date

This collection of information is required by 37 PR 1.5. The information is required obtain or retain a partial by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confloonitality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 aid 37 PFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and or suggestions for reducing this burder, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademers Office, U.S. Department of Commontal, Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissionner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

09/837,733

Confirmation No.: 9083

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Applicant Filed

David M. Pepper et al.

T.C./A.U.

April 18, 2001 2881

Examiner

Bernard E. Souw

Docket No.

: RTN-154PUS (formerly PD-99E082)

Customer No.:

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1450 on the date set forth below.

12/4/03

Date of Signature and Mail Deposit

Christopher S. Daly

Reg. No. 37,303

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

LETTER UNDER MPEP 707.05(g) AND 710.06

On November 13, 2003, Applicant's representative received an Office Action dated November 10, 2003, in connection with the above-identified patent application.

On Page 3, paragraph 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner relied on a reference and provided the following citation: "Arimoto et al. (SPIE Proceedings Vol. 2990, Free Space Laser Communications Technologies IX, San Jose, CA, February 1997)."

Applicant has reviewed the Office Action and all of the papers included with the Office Action but does not find a reference with the citation provided by the Examiner. Also, this

Appl. No. 09/837,733

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reference is not listed in any form PTO 1449 submitted by Applicant, nor on any form PTO-892 supplied by the Examiner. Applicant thus submits that the Examiner has either provided an incorrect citation of this reference or the reference was omitted from the Office Action mailed to the Applicant.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner either: (1) provide the correct citation; or (2) provide a copy of the omitted reference. Also, in accordance with MPEP 710.06, Applicant requests that the Examiner re-start the previously set period for reply to run from the date the error is corrected.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this letter or this application, he is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned attorney.

In the event any additional fee is required, please charge such amount to the Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 50-0845.

Dated: 12/4/03

Respectfully submitted,

By: (Mity Mills

Christopher S. Daly Reg. No. 37,303

Attorney for Applicant(s) 275 Turnpike Street, Suite 101 Canton, MA 02021-2354

Tel.: (781) 401-9988, ext. 11

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